EXPANDABLE SUPPORTIVE BRANCHED ENDOLUMINAL GRAFTS Application No. 09/657,041 Amendment dated January 16, 2012 Reply to Ex Parte Quayle Action of July 18, 2011

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on July 18, 2011, and the references cited therewith.

No claims are amended, canceled, or added; as a result, claims 1-30, 40, 42, and 59 are now pending in this application.

Examiner Interview Summary

Applicant thanks Examiner Severson for the courtesy of a telephone interview conducted on January 10, 2012. Applicant and the Examiner discussed the outstanding petition in related application number 11/906,703 and a best approach for advancing prosecution of the present case while avoiding abandonment. Applicant and the Examiner agreed that Applicant should file the present response to avoid abandonment while the petition in application number 11/906,703 is being resolved.

Specification

The disclosure was objected to because of the following informalities: The priority information at the beginning of the specification needs to be updated in accordance with MPEP 1451 and 37 CFR 1.177(a).

Appropriate correction was required. Applicant has amended the specification to update the priority information in accordance with MPEP 1451 and 37 CFR 1.177(a).

On July 14, 2011, Applicant filed a petition to resolve the status of the priority information with respect to application Ser. No. 11/906,703. Applicant argued in the petition that application Ser. No. 11/906,703 is a divisional reissue of U.S. Pat No. 5,855,598. While that petition is still outstanding, Applicant has prepared the amendment to the specification presented herein based on the assumption that the petition will be granted and that application Ser. No. 11/906,703

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will be considered a divisional reissue of U.S. Pat No. 5,855,598. Applicant has prepared this amendment to avoid abandonment of the present application for failure to respond to the Ex Parte Quayle action.

As such, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the specification, particularly after the petition in co-pending application Ser. No. 11/906,703 has been resolved.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-30, 40, 42, and 59 are allowed. Applicant thanks Examiner Severson for the indication of allowable subject matter. EXPANDABLE SUPPORTIVE BRANCHED ENDOLUMINAL GRAFTS Application No. 09/657,041 Amendment dated January 16, 2012 Reply to Ex Parte Quayle Action of July 18, 2011

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's below listed attorney at (612) 236-0132 to facilitate prosecution of this matter.

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR §1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being electronically filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on this 16th day of

Angela Miller

Angela Miller

Respectfully Submitted, Leonard Pinchuk, et al.

By Applicants' Representatives, Brooks, Cameron & Huebsch, PLLC 1221 Nicollet Avenue, Suite 500 Minneapolis, MN 55403

Jason P. Lorfing

Date: 16 January 2012